

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 03312 091101Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 /068 W
-----091112Z 084449 /21

R 090853Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6001
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
CINCPAC HONLULU, HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 3312

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, KN, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET VIEWS ON NORTH KOREAN SUCCESSION

1. SOVIET EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR KOMAROVSKY TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 9 THAT HE BELIEVED REPORT KIM CHONG-IL WOULD SUCCEED FATHER AND THAT ANNOUNCEMENT MIGHT BE MADE ON KIM IL-SUNG'S SIXTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY APRIL 15. KOMAROVSKY HAD NO FIRM EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSION ANNOUNCEMENT , BUT BASED HIS ASSESSMENT ON ATTITUDES AND COMMENTS OF CHONGRYUN (CHOSOREN) CONTACTS, WHO SPEAK OF KIM CHONG-IL IN TONES OF RESPECT RESERVED ONLY FOR TOP LEADERS. KOMAROVSKY SPECULATED THAT KIM

CHONG-IL HAD HELD POSITION OF HIGH RESPONSIBILITY FOR YEARS AND THAT KIM IL-SUNG WOULD HAND OVER POWER GRADUALLY.

2. ASKED FOR HIS VIEWS ON FATHER-SON SUCCESSION IN COMMUNIST SOCIETY KOMAROVSKY COMMENTED THAT DYNASTIES HAD NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO DO WITH SCIENTIFIC SOCIALISM, BUT HAD DEEP ROOTS IN ASIAN POLITICAL TRADITION. HE HAD HEARD FROM GHONGRYUN CONTACTS THAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 03312 091101Z

YOUNGER KIM EXTREMELY COMPETENT AND SUGGESTED THAT APPOINTMENT BASED ON MERIT. AS A YOUNG MAN (36), KIM MIGHT BE MORE FLEXIBLE THAN HIS FATHER, KOMAROVSKY CONCLUDED.
SHOESMITH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, COMMUNISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TOKYO03312
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770080-1165
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770375/aaaacorb.tel
Line Count: 59
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f0bed1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3156385
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET VIEWS ON NORTH KOREAN SUCCESSION
TAGS: PINT, KN, UR, (KIM CHONG-IL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f0bed1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009